

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 038929

61

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-02 PM-04 DODE-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 COME-00 /031 R

DRAF ED BY ARA/CEN:PHWACKERBARTH:DLM

APPROVED BY ARA/CEN:MARVIN WEISSMAN

ARA/PLC/PM:SQUIGG

PM/MC:JWALSH

----- 010784

R 181733Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 038929

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, ES, US

SUBJECT: MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE APPLICATION - POMA
HERMANOS

REF: SAN SALVADOR 0704

1. DEPARTMENT RECEIVED MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE APPLICATION ON FEBRUARY 2 FROM INTER-AMERICAN IMPORT-EXPORT COMPANY, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA (CASE NO. 10629) FOR WEAPONS MENTIONED REFTEL. APPLICATION LISTS FOREIGN CONSIGNEE AS MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND PUBLIC SECURITY, SAN SALVADOR; STATED PURPOSE IS QUOTE: FOR GOVERNMENTAL USE UNQUOTE. HOWEVER, LETTER ATTACHED TO APPLICATION INDICATES ITEMS ORDERED BY POMA HERMANOS. ALSO ATTACHED IS LETTER FROM MOD SUB-SECRETARY CASTILLO YANES, AUTHORIZING PURCHASE. WHEN QUERIED RE DISCREPANCY IN CONSIGNEE AND PURPOSE, INTER-AMERICAN IMPORT-EXPORT REPLIED THEY WERE TOLD QUOTE: THAT'S THE WAY WEAPONS ARE IMPORTED INTO EL SALVADOR UNQUOTE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 038929

2. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE-MENTIONED DISCREPANCY, WE HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT APPROVING THIRD ITEM IN APPLICATION (16 MAC MODEL 10 SUB-MACHINE GUNS-9-MM MODIFIED SO THAT

THE SUPPRESSOR/SILENCER CANNOT BE ATTACHED) PLUS MAGAZINES AND AMMO FOR SALE TO PRIVATE FIRM. THE MAC M-10 SUB-MACHINE GUN OR AUTOMATIC PISTOL, EVEN WITH SUPPRESSOR/SILENCER REMOVED, IS A FORMIDABLE WEAPON, WHICH BECAUSE OF ITS SMALL SIZE AND RAPID FIRE CAPABILITY IS DESCRIBED AS IDEAL FOR COUNTER INSURGENCY - AND BY EXTENSION INSURGENCY-OPERATIONS. WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT PERMITTING SALE OF THIS MANY MAC M-10'S TO A PRIVATE FIRM BECAUSE OF THE PERPLEXING POSSIBILITY THAT THE WEAPONS COULD TOO EASILY FALL INTO THE HANDS OF TERRORISTS THROUGH THEFT OR BUYING OFF SECURITY GUARDS.

3. WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED MC LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR THE SALE OF MODEST QUANTITIES OF MODIFIED MAC M-10'S TO PRIVATE FIRMS OR INDIVIDUALS IN OTHER LA COUNTRIES WHEN CLEARLY APPROPRIATE TO FIRM OR INDIVIDUAL'S NEEDS AND HOST COUNTRY DEFENSE MINISTRY CONCURRED IN SALE. IN THIS INSTANCE, BECAUSE OF THE QUANTITY OF WEAPONS INVOLVED AND THE RECENT UPSURGE IN TERRORISM IN EL SALVADOR WE FEEL EMBASSY SHOULD CONFIRM WITH MOD THAT IT HAS FOCUSED ON CONCERNS RAISED PARA 2. IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL TO KNOW SIZE OF FIRM'S SECURITY FORCES, HOW WEAPONS WOULD BE DEPLOYED AND WHAT INTERNAL CONTROLS FIRM WOULD EXERCISE INCLUDING STORAGE FACILITIES FOR GUNS.

4. DESCRIPTIVE MATERIAL ON MAC M-10 BEING POUCHED. INGERSOLL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, MUNITIONS CONTROLS, ARMS EXPORT LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE038929
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760061-0630
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760238/aaaabgwk.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 SAN SALVADOR 704
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <15 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE APPLICATION - POMA HERMANOS
TAGS: ETRD, ES, US, INTER-AMERICAN IMPORT-EXPORT CO
To: SAN SALVADOR
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006